

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 10 as follows:

-- In the basic input/output system (BIOS), this problem is solved using a portion of code known as a "boot block." The boot block is a known-good portion of code that is not updated during a BIOS update and whose sole purpose is to restore the system firmware image and system settings. Currently, there are several schemes used to detect the desire to restore the system firmware image. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 6 as follows:

--It is stated in U.S. Patent No. 6,018,806 that "an external jumper (not shown) is inserted into the header 1100 to shunt the test mode signal TEST.sub.--MODE to system ground to enable the system to execute code from the protected or boot block area of the flash memory device 742 in order to enable the system to be booted. Once the system is booted, the flash memory device 742 is reprogrammed by way of the serial interface 894 (FIG. 29). Once reprogramming is complete, the shunt is removed from the header 1100 (FIG. 30) and the adapter plug 790 is removed, restoring the system to normal operation." It is recited in Claim 6 that the system includes "~~means for enabling said computer system to be booted during a condition when said non-protected area of said memory is corrupted including one or more terminals adapted to receiving an external jumper which, when installed, causes said computer system to execute disaster recovery BIOS code from said protected area in said memory in order to enable said computer system to be booted in the event that said memory is corrupted and to enable said flash memory devices to be updated by way of said communications interface.~~" --

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 14 as follows:

--It would be desirable to have employ methods that ~~overcomes~~ overcome the aforementioned and related limitations of the prior art and in particular the patents mentioned above. It is ~~an~~ therefore an objective of the present invention to provide ~~for~~ methods for entering system firmware recovery mode using software-detectable buttons, such as power and/or sleep buttons. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 20 as follows:

--To accomplish the above and other objectives, the present invention provides for methods that detect, for example, a user's desire to enter firmware recovery mode using software-detectable buttons. Exemplary software-detectable buttons include power and/or sleep buttons on the front panel of keyboard of a computer system. In newer systems, the power and/or sleep buttons are accessible and are detectable by software. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 25 as follows:

--In accordance with the present invention, upon initial power-on, the system firmware detects whether the one or more software-detectable buttons, such as the power and/or sleep buttons have been held down for a predetermined time period or that are sequentially held down, after which the buttons are released. The depressing and releasing action of the selected button(s) is used as an indicator to initiate the recovery mode. The present invention thus uses traditional power buttons (or their equivalent on some keyboards) to initiate firmware recovery mode. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 32 as follows:

--In particular, an exemplary embodiment of the present invention is a firmware recovery method that ~~comprises~~ includes the steps of (a) detecting the status of software-detectable button(s), such as the power and/or sleep button(s) at power-on. (b) distinguishing between the use of the selected button(s) as a power and/or sleep (or other predetermined use) button and as a recovery button, and (c) initiating firmware recovery subsequent to release of the button(s). --

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 22 as follows:

--In operation, when the computer 10 is turned on, the initialization code is run to initialize the CPU 11 and the system memory 13. The dispatch manager is then loaded into the system memory 13. The dispatch manager executes the list of tasks contained therein to cause all required firmware (BIOS modules) to be loaded into the system memory 13 and ~~must be~~ executed. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 27 as follows:

--The dispatch manager determines whether each required BIOS module is present in the system memory 13, and if it is not, finds, loads and executes each required BIOS module. The BIOS modules are typically located in the critical nonvolatile storage device 12 (flash memory) or in any of the nonvolatile storage devices 17 identified above. --

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 14 as follows:

--With regard to (b), the distinguishing step 32, since the power and/or sleep buttons, or other software-detectable button, may have other uses, it must be possible to distinguish between their normal use and their use as a “recovery” button. In the case of the sleep button, for example it is ~~not~~ normally not depressed upon power-on and is therefore readily distinguishable. In the case of the power button, it may be depressed upon power-on because the user has failed to release it, or on some systems, holding the power button for an extended period of time may force the system off. --